

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method for producing an antibody, which method comprises:

inoculating an animal with an expression vector expressing a fusion protein comprising an antigenic protein fused with the C-terminal of a transmembrane domain, wherein when the fusion protein is expressed, the N-terminal side of the transmembrane domain is located in the cell and the C-terminal side of the transmembrane domain and the antigenic protein are outside of the cell; and

isolating an antibody against the antigenic protein from the animal and purifying the antibody.

2. (Original) The method for producing an antibody of claim 1, wherein the transmembrane domain is a polypeptide having at least the amino acid sequence from 1st to 26th of SEQ ID NO. 2.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) A method for immunizing an animal, which comprises intradermally administering to the animal an expression vector expressing a fusion protein comprising an antigenic protein fused with the C-terminal of a transmembrane domain, wherein when the fusion protein is expressed, the N-terminal side of the transmembrane domain is located in the cell and the C-terminal side of the transmembrane domain and the antigenic protein are outside of the cell.

6. (New) The method for immunizing an animal of claim 5, wherein the transmembrane domain is a polypeptide having at least the amino acid sequence from 1st to 26th of SEQ ID NO. 2.